

10th February 1959]

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I do not feel that is a matter for any criticism. I think they are in good company.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Deputy Chairman is very popular.

List showing details of diversion of surplus funds under section 31 of the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, 1951.

* 20 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to furnish a list showing details of diversion of surplus funds under section 31 of the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, 1951 (Madras Act XIX of 1951) during 1957–58?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALLAM : A statement^a is placed on the table of the House.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. Minister enlighten us on the general principles governing the diversion of these temple funds to other institutions?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, in the first place, the temples whose funds are proposed to be diverted should have sufficient surplus funds after meeting their needs. In the second place, the purpose for which such diversion is permitted should be in conformity with the objectives of those temples.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : As we find that there are several instances in which diversion has been made for non-religious purposes, will the Hon. Minister kindly reconcile the same with his statement that the objectives of the institutions concerned should be adhered to?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I do not think, Sir, that there is any such non-religious purpose for which diversion is permitted. If feeding a poor, hungry soul is considered non-religious by the hon. Member, I could tell him a hungry man would have no devotion. If educating a person would be considered by the hon. Member to be a non-religious purpose, I could tell him, Sir, that preaching religion to an uneducated, illiterate person will only lead to superstition.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : As certain devirsions have been made for specific purposes, for example, the construction of a prayer hall in a particular college, may I know, Sir, whether the Government watch whether the particular purpose is being fulfilled by these diversions?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Help for the construction of a prayer hall in an educational institution is certainly considered to be quite in conformity with the objectives of the temple. If a prayer hall is put up in a college and called a 'Prarthana Mandap' or prayer hall, it will conduce to religious instruction in that institution.

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SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : கோலில் நிதியிலிருந்தாவது சித்த வைத்திய முறையில் ஆராய்ச்சி செய்வதற்குப் பணம் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறதா?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Yes, Sir. Some temples have taken up the question of research on this Siddha system of medicine.

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : சித்த வைத்திய முறையைப் பற்றி ஆராய்ச்சி செய்வது மதச்சம்பந்தப்பட்டது என்று அரசியலாளர் கருதுகிறார்களா?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : வியாதிஸ்தர்களுக்குக் குச் சிறந்த பக்தி இருக்காது. வியாதிவந்தால், அதையும் தீர்க்கத்தான் வேண்டும்.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Questions are over.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY A MEMBER.

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p.m.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : On a point of personal explanation, Sir. The other day in commenting on my speech, one of the hon. Members said, 'Mr. Srinivasavaradan has incited the people to loot shops.' I did not make any such observation. I brought to the notice of the Government the prevailing high prices and I said that the people were in despair. 'This is what I have said : 'Please concentrate your attention on solving this food problem and if you do that, the other things would solve by themselves.' I did not at all incite the people to loot. The hon. Member Sri P. T. Rajan said that I did not at all incite the people, but still the Member persisted. I only wish to bring to the notice of the House the unfortunate interpretation that has been put on my speech and correct it. It was not my intention to incite the people.

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ : Sir, is any hon. Member entitled to put his own construction on the speech of another Member?

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is only a statement of personal explanation.

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : On a point of information, Sir. I want to know what the actual speech of the Member was . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. It is only a statement made to correct misinterpretation.

III.—DISCUSSION ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS—cont.

SRI V. K. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER : கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கவர்னர் அவர்களுடைய உரையில் பரம்பிக்குளத் திட்டம் சம்பந்தமாகக் கேரள அரசாங்கத்தோடு பேசி முடிவு எடுத்திருப்பதைப்பற்றிச் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்தத் திட்டம் நாங்கள் பல காலமாய் ஆசையோடு எதிர்பார்த்து வந்த திட்டம். இந்தத் திட்டம் கோயம்புத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் தென் பகுதியில் இருக்கின்ற வரண்ட பிரதேசங்களுக்குப் பிரயோஜனப்படக்கூடிய ஒரு திட்டம். நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் பல திட்டங்கள்